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The Green Cincinnati Plan (Climate Protection Action Plan) Marks One-Year Anniversary

In June 2008, City Council made a commitment to take a proactive leadership role in reducing Cincinnati's contribution to global climate change by adopting the Mayor's Green Cincinnati Plan (Climate Protection Action Plan). On June 23, 2009 Larry Falkin, Director of the Office of Environmental Quality, delivered a one-year anniversarv report to City Council Health, Environment and Education Committee.

Over the past year the City has aggressively moved forward toward the implementation of the 80 recommendations identified in the Plan. Currently over 60 of them are in some phase of implementation.

"We take great pride in our leadership role in protecting our environment", said Mayor Mark Mallory. "We are very excited with how far we have come in just one short year to meet our goal in reducing our greenhouse gas emissions."

"What the implementation champions and task teams have accomplished over the past 12 months has been amazing", said Ginnell Schiller, Climate Protection Coordinator. "Our champions and team members,

represent non-profit organizations, educational institutions, businesses, associations, City administration and involved private citizens. Their dedication to the Plan has been the key to our success", said Ms. Schiller.

Examples of some of the active initiatives include:

- LEED Buildings in Cincinnati
- City Performance Contracts—39 facilities
- Comprehensive Plan for the City
- Cincinnati Energy Alliance
- CPS Science Curriculum Council presentation
- Electric Car Parking Incentive
- Renewable energy installation
- Metro's Hybrid Buses
- Food Task Team
- Cincinnati Farms/ Gardens

The Green Cincinnati Plan has been credited with three environmental awards:

 Frank Ferris III Award for Planning Excellence from Hamilton County Regional Planning Commission

- Clean Energy Community of the Year 2008 Award from Green Energy Ohio
- Greater Cincinnati Earth
 Day Coalition Environmental Award

With the Plan's guidance, Cincinnati will continue to progress into a more sustainable community that supports a healthy natural environment and local economy with new green jobs, energy savings through energy efficiency, and improved public health with cleaner air and water.

To review the Plan, go to http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/cmgr/downloads/cmgr-pdf18280.pdf or for more information about it, contact Ginnell Schiller at-gin-nell.schiller@cincinnati-oh.gov or 513-352-6911.

"Cincinnati is committed to taking urgent action to reduce its contributions to global climate change. Cincinnati believes that, done wisely, the same actions that reduce GHG emissions can yield multiple benefits, including: cleaner air and water; improved public health; monetary savings; stronger local economy; and creation of good local jobs." Green Cincinnati Plan June 28, 2008

17 Residents Graduate from City's Brownfield Job Training Class

The jubilant mood of the family and friends of the 17 brownfield job training students was infectious at the graduation ceremony held in City Council Chambers on June 4. After words of inspiration were shared by Vice Mayor David Crowley, previous State Representative Catherine Barrett, and others, attendees cheered on their loved ones as the asbestos, lead, and hazardous material certificates were distributed. This graduation completes

the 8-week training funded from the City's 3rd USEPA grant program. It has provided a career path option for a total of 177 residents since 2002. In the last round of funding, at least 85% of the graduates have been hired by employers in need of environmentally trained workers. That number is expected to increase given the caliber of the recent class.

With USEPA's announcement that additional brownfield job training

funding is available under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the City submitted a \$200,000 application on April 20, 2009, in hopes of receiving it's 4th round of training funding. If this funding is received, an additional 60 residents will be trained to meet the workforce hiring needs of not only brownfield remediation companies, but also the needs of those performing weatherization and energy efficiency work.

City Hires New Environmental Compliance Auditor

The City's Office of Environmental Quality (OEQ) is pleased to welcome Matt Mullin as an Environmental Internal Compliance Auditor. Matt brings with him over 15 years of environmental assessment and auditing experience in both the private and public sectors.

Matt will be implementing the City's internal Environmental Compliance Program, which will examine all City facilities in regard to environmental regulatory requirements such as air pollution, wastewater, storm water, solid waste, hazardous waste, spill prevention plans, underground storage tanks, etc. Best management practices such as recycling, energy management, and environmentally preferable purchasing will also be examined.

The compliance audits are a tool to help City departments be consistent with environmental regulatory requirements and generally accepted industry standards for good environmental stewardship. The audits will identify opportunities for improvement and cost-saving measures. OEQ will consult with City departments to provide the knowledge needed to implement improved environmental procedures or practices.

Energy, Economics & Environment (3E) Summit

The Energy, Economics and Environment (3E) Summit is scheduled to take place at 8:00 a.m. on October 2, 2009 at the Duke Energy Center. This exciting Summit is an educational and networking forum for business and community organizations. It will provide specific



insights on green initiatives that will also save money. To learn more visit www.3Esummitcincinnati.org

City Applies for Clean Ohio Funding for Environmental Site Assessment in West End

In order to develop a comprehensive remediation plan for a potential nearby brownfield redevelopment project, additional soil and groundwater sampling is needed to better determine the extent of contamination found recently in the West End near Center Avenue and Findley Street. On May 15, 2009, the City started the application process by placing a \$282,762 Clean Ohio Assistance Fund application on file at the West End Branch of the Public Library. Additional efforts to notify the public of the application included placement of a legal notice in the Cincinnati Enquirer and the posting of a sign at the site. A public meeting was held on June 30, 2009. Notification of grant award is expected by the end of July, 2009. If the grant is received, the assessment work will be completed by the end of the year. Another Clean Ohio application will likely be submitted in January 2010 to request funding for soil and groundwater remediation.

Saving Energy and Money through Energy Service Performance Contracts

Like most cities, the City of Cincinnati is challenged by its aging facilities and limited capital funds. Most of the facilities were built at a time when energy and operational expenses were not a major factor in build-

ing design and most are now in need of technology and comfort upgrades. State of Ohio enabling legislation introduced in 1994 allows municipalities to fund capital improvements with energy and operational savings through a performance-based approach. The installation of energy savings



measures can be financed by Ohio municipalities over a term up to the average useful life of the equipment, typically 15 years, and is not included in the calculation of the municipality's net indebtedness.

The City owns/operates nearly 400 buildings. Energy efficiency building audits have been conducted at 39 buildings to date, including City Hall and the Convention Center. Contracts to complete nearly \$5.6 million worth of energy efficiency upgrades for this first round of buildings have been signed. When the lighting, heating and air conditioning, building automation, and building envelope upgrade work is implemented, energy use will be reduced by more the 3.2 million kWh. The work will also generate 45,817 kWh of renewable energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 3,413 metric tonnes (the equivalent of removing 614 cars from the road for a year or planting more than 87,000 trees). The majority of project work will be self-funded with guaranteed energy savings and energy rebates. Only \$350,000 of the City's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) funding is needed for the gap financing to make these first-round projects happen.

Based on the findings from these first projects, \$18 million worth of energy efficiency upgrades is expected to be generated with the full \$1,139,600 EECBG funding allocated to City facility performance contracts. This is expected to result in total energy reduction of more than 11 million kWh, generation of 148,470 kWh of renewable energy, and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by over 11,000 metric tonnes.

Green Partnership for Greater Cincinnati Recommends Implementation of EcoDriving

The Alternative Transportation Task Team of the <u>Green Partnership for Greater Cincinnati</u> recently made a recommendation to implement EcoDriving training and practices with the five partner organizations (City of Cincinnati, Hamilton County, Cincinnati Public Schools, University of Cincinnati and Duke Energy).

EcoDriving is a set of best practices for driving and maintenance that will reduce fuel consumption, thereby lessening greenhouse gases and our carbon footprint and saving money in the process. The typical EcoDriver can increase fuel efficiency 15% or more. An excellent website, available at www.ecodrivingusa.com, provides tips and their rationale. It includes suggestions like:

- Slow down, maintain a constant speed and avoid jack rabbit starts
- Remove all excess weight from your vehicle
- Maintain proper tire pressure

The Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers sponsors the website.



City Continues Greening Its Facilities

The use of energy in buildings accounts for nearly 75% of Cincinnati's green house gas (GHG) emissions. The majority of these emissions are due to use of electricity, which has a larger GHG impact in Cincinnati than in many other communities because Cincinnati is heavily dependent on coal for generation of its electricity. Major strategies for reducing GHG emissions due to buildings include implementing energy efficiency measures, installing distributed renewable energy production capacity, and reducing emissions associated with the centralized

production of electricity.

Recently the Greater Cincinnati Water Works (GCWW) installed solar panels on the garage roof of its Spring Grove headquarters facility. The installation consists of 18 rows of 8 solar pan-



els for a total of 144 panels. The total cost to install the panels was \$344,264 however, through governmental rebates and grants of \$145,000 the total cost to the City was approximately \$200,000. *Continued on Page 7*

State and City Partner in Low Interest Loans for **Green Roofs Program**

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA), Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati (MSDGC) and the Office of Environmental Quality have created the first "Green Roof Loan Program" of its kind in Ohio. Utilizing money from the Water Pollution Control Loan Fund, OEPA has made \$5,000,000 available for linked deposit, below market rate loans to install green roofs within the service

area of MSDGC.

Green roofs have wonderful benefits and have been utilized in Europe for many years to address various climate and aesthetic issues.

They provide additional green space within developed areas, especially urban cores, and help to absorb rain water and purify the air.

In Cincinnati, evidence has shown there is a problem with storm water run-off, in conjunction with both combined (CSO) and sanitary (SSO) sewer overflows. During periods of heavy rain, the existing sewer systems are pushed well beyond capacity and result in an overflow of sewerage and storm water. During wet weather this overflow finds its way into local homes, streets, creeks and rivers, impacting structures, aquatic communities, recreational use and water quality. Depending on the weather conditions, this can happen as many as 105 times a year, resulting in 14.4 billion gallons of overflow per year.

Green Roofs help mitigate the overflows by providing an absorbent surface area that retains the rain water and therefore reduces the amount of storm water runoff. Benefits don't end there . . . in terms of air quality green roofs are equally as impressive. They capture carbon dioxide and other pollutants, produce oxygen, provide moisture and coolness and overall, help purify the air. These latter benefits support the City of Cincinnati's "Green Cincinnati Plan", adopted in 2008, which commits to reducing Green House Gas emissions 2% per year.

Another way green roofs have a positive impact is by reducing the need for air conditioning. Due to their increased insulation and cooling properties, green roofs decrease the amount of cooling required within the building itself. This

is of particular importance within Cincinnati, where summers are hot, humid and air quality is often poor due to pollution. The advantages are part of a cycle: by using less air conditioning, one consumes less energy, and therefore reduces the amount of green house gasses generated, which in turn, improves the air quality for the City as a whole and saves money on energy bills!

The Office of Environmental Quality (OEQ) is excited about the Green Roof Loan Program and the impact that \$5,000,000 will have on the installation of green roofs within our community. If you would like more information on the program, please contact Robin Henderson in OEQ at 513-352-5340 or

robin.henderson@cincinnati-oh.gov.



MSD Galbraith Road Facility October 2007



MSD Galbraith Road Facility June 2009





Cincinnati Installs New Pavement Markings to Increase Cyclist Safety

Cutting-edge "sharrow" lane a first in the area

Media Advisory: City of Cincinnati Department of Transportation and Engineering —June 1, 2009

On June 1, 2009, the City of Cincinnati became the first municipality in the region to install "sharrows" on its streets. The sharrow (shared lane arrow) is a pavement marking installed within travel lanes reminding motorists that they should expect to see and share the road with cyclists. In addition, sharrows help cyclists position themselves within the lane so as to avoid being hit by a suddenly opened car door. Although it is the motorist's responsibility to check before opening their door, riding too close to parked cars is still a common mistake that can lead to serious injury.

The Department of Transportation & Engineering began installing sharrows on portions of Clifton Avenue on June 1. Segments of Ludlow Avenue and Madison Road will also receive sharrows next month. The locations were chosen based on the results of a month-long citywide

survey of cyclists. The markings, which include a bicycle symbol with double arrows at the top, will be

placed every few hundred feet on the pavement.

The city has been unable to install striped bike lanes on these streets because of the high demand for

on-street parking, and the inability to either eliminate a travel lane, or narrow the existing travel lanes. The sharrow markings have been successfully used in other cities across the country, and will be evaluated here in Cincinnati over the next twelve months.

"We want to do everything we can to encourage bicycling as a viable means of transportation in Cincinnati. That means making our streets as safe as we can for cyclists of all skill levels," said Michael

Moore, Interim director of Transportation & Engineering. "Additionally, better accommodating bicycles helps the city become greener."

In the presence

of sharrows, cyclists should ride through the center of the marking when safe to do so. Motorists should expect to see cyclist on the street, and remember to give adequate space when passing. A list of Frequently Asked Questions is available on the Department website at www.cincinnati-oh.gov/sharrows.

Ten Commandments of Bicycling

- 1. Wear a helmet for every ride and use lights at night.
- 2. Conduct an ABC Quick check before every ride
- 3. Obey traffic laws: ride on the right, slowest traffic farthest to right.
- 4. Ride predictably and be visible at all times.
- 5. At intersections, ride in the rightmost lane that goes in your direction.
- 6. Scan for traffic and signal lane changes and turns.
- 7. Be prepared for mechanical emergencies with tools and know-how.
- 8. Control your bike by practicing bike handling skills.
- 9. Drink before you are thirsty and eat before you are hungry.
- 10. Have Fun!

A Guide to biking in Greater Cincinnati—"Wanna Bike" http://www.oki.org/transportation/bike/wannabike.html

The 2009 OKI Bike Maps are Here

OKI Bicycle E-Info-News #88—May 29, 2009

The updated OKI Cincinnati Bike Route Guides came from the printer in time for Bike Month. The maps have been distributed at many of the Bike Month events including Bike to Work Day on Fountain Square, Breakfast on the Bridge, the Findlay Market Bike Center Workshops, the MOBO Fundraiser, and Cyclebrortion. The map side shows updated bike suitability ratings for many streets, "memorable" hills, Cincinnati bike rack locations, and recommended river crossings. The map covers most of Hamilton County plus the northern parts of Campbell and Kenton counties in Kentucky. On the back is related information describing local bicycle





facility planning, state laws and traffic principles for cycling, commuting tips and local phone and web contacts. The maps are free, however there is a \$1.00 fee for postage and handling, if ordered from OKI. A supply of the maps have been offered to local bike shops and other interested organizations. The map was prepared by OKI's staff. A PDF version is on the OKI website at: http://www.oki.org/bikeguide/CincinnatiBikeRouteGuide2.pdf and: http://www.oki.org/bikeguide/bikemapnew.pdf

For more information contact Don Burrell, AICP, Senior Planner Bicycle/Pedestrain Coordinator, OKI Regional Council of Governments 513-621-6300.

City Offers Free Parking to All-Electric Vehicle Owners

On June 1, 2009 on Fountain Square, Vice Mayor David Crowley and the City of Cincinnati launched the City's <u>All</u>-Electric Car Incentive Pilot Project. This pilot project offers <u>FREE</u> parking to all-electric cars at three specific city owned garages and one City owned lot located in the downtown area. This incentive project also includes free parking to all-electric cars at any parking meter within the Cincinnati city limits.

The pilot project is part of the Mayor's Green Cincinnati Plan that was passed by City Council last year. The Plan, which was developed by a steering committee chaired by Vice Mayor Crowley, contains 80 recommendations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and make Cincinnati a greener, healthier place to live.

Parking in the designated City owned garages will be on a first come, first serve basis with no overnight privileges. Electric cars parked at a parking meter will not be exempt from the current parking meter restrictions. Electric cars will receive free parking for the time permitted by the parking meter. This free parking program is for ALL-electric cars only and does not include hybrid vehicles.

Electric Car Incentive Pilot Project applications are accepted both online and in-person. Online applicants will be contacted by telephone to set up for an appointment for car inspection. In person applications will be accepted by appointment only. To schedule an "in-person" appointment, please contact the Office of Environmental Quality at (513) 352-6991 Monday through Friday 8 am to 5pm

City of Cincinnati
Office of Environmental Quality
Two Centennial Plaza
805 Central Avenue, Suite 320
Cincinnati, OH 45202
Phone (513) 352-6991
Fax (513) 352-6995

Designated City Owned Garages/Lots

Fountain Square South
(416 Vine Street)
Garfield Garage (13 W. Ninth Street)
Fifth and Race Parking Lot
Seventh Street Garage – <u>Level 3 Only</u>







City Applies for Energy Efficiency and Conservation Federal Government Block Grant

The EECBG is "an Act to

move the United States to-

ward greater energy inde-

pendence and security, to

increase the production of

clean renewable fuels, to

protect consumers, to in-

ucts, buildings, and vehi-

crease the efficiency of prod-

cles, to promote research on

and deploy greenhouse gas

captures and storage op-

tions, and to improve the

energy performance of the

Federal Government, and

for other purposes."

In March, 2008, Cincinnati City Council approved a motion directing the Administration to apply for the <u>US Department of Energy</u> - "Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG)" as outlined in the federal government Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) appropriated \$3.2 billion for EECBG, including \$2.6 billion for formula allocations to cities, counties, and states. In March, 2009, the Department of Energy announced the formula allocations, providing for \$3.520.600 for the City of Cincinnati. Up to 20% of grant funds may be used

for sub-grants to nongovernmental organizations, up to 10% may be used for administrative expenses, and up to 20% may be used for revolving loan funds.

The City Manager assigned the lead in developing the City's EECBG plan to the Office of Environmental Quality (OEQ). OEQ began the process by soliciting funding request and gathering project information from City departments and external organizations. \$77 million worth of project funding requests were received, more than 22 times the amount allotted to Cincinnati through the formula grant. OEQ clustered all projects into seven primary categories:

- 1) City Facilities
- 2) Non-government Organizations
- 3) Renewable Energy
- 4) Transportation
- 5) Recycling
- 6) Outreach
- 7) Administration

Project evaluations focused on the

project's ability to 1)

meet the primary purpose of the block grant, 2) advance established City priorities, 3) transform Cincinnati, 4) create or retain jobs, and 5) leverage other available funds.

The City submitted its grant application on June 24, 2009. "The Department of Energy is currently reviewing applications and we expect to hear back from

them in August, 2009," said Mr. Falkin, Director of OEQ. "Upon receiving approval, the City can start drawing down funds."



EECBG Recommended Fund Allocation

City Facilities		
Performance Contracts	\$1	,139,600
Non-Governmental Organizations		
Cincinnati Energy Alliance	\$	604,000
Mill Creek Restoration Project	\$	100,000
Transportation		
Ohio River Trail	\$	400,000
Recycling		
Wheeled Carts	\$	750,000
Outreach		
Green Cincinnati Plan	\$	50,000
Urban Farming Expansion	\$	75,000
Building Codes	\$	50,000
<u>Administration</u>		
Administration	\$	352,000
Total	\$3	,520,600

Continued from Page 3— City Continues Greening Its Facilities

Each of the 144 solar panels produces approximately 305 watts of energy. The panels are estimated to produce approximately 48,322 KWH a year which is approximately 1% of the facilities load. Using 2008 electric cost of \$0.0757 KWH, the annual savings is estimated to be over \$3,600.

A second "green" facility project is a green vegetated roof installation currently under construction at Eden Parks Pump Station building adjacent to Mirror Lake.



Covering an area of approximately 4300 sq ft., the cost is an estimated to be \$215,000. Completion of the typical roof and aggregate placement is schedule for late July, but planting will actually occur in the fall of 2009 to prevent scorching of the plants. The roof will be gaining two additional drains and a two-way slope rather than the single direction of drainage it currently has.



Around the perimeter of the roof there will be a walking path made of pavers and toward the center there will be 3 to 4 inches of synthetic aggregate to assist the drought resistant plants in growing. Vegetated roods reduce storm water runoff, lowers heating and air conditioning bills, and minimize the urban heat island effect.

For more information on the GCWW renewable energy project contact Josh Waldroff at 591-6585 or josh.waldroff@gcww.cincinnati-oh.gov.

Upcoming Events

August 7, 2009

Keep Cincinnati Beautiful -"City of Cincinnati Safe and Clean Neighborhood Grant Funds

This program allows communities to implement projects such as planting trees, installing benches,



and creating artwork to revitalize areas within the community that are in danger, or have become blighted. Applications received after deadline will be considered for the following quarter if funds are available. For more information on this grant contact KCP at 513-352-4380

August 17, 2009 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Civic Garden Center of Greater Cincinnati - "Bees in the Burbs"

This event will provide an introduction on bee keeping in the city by sharing information on how to start and care for hives, tools you may need, where to place the hive and



other valuable bee information. The cost of the "Bees in the Burbs" instructional class is \$10. For this event and other exciting CGC events visit their website at www.civicgardencenter.org/index.htm.

August 22, 2009

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Departs from Fountain Square "Cincy Bike Abouts: Fountains of Youth"

Take time to dip those tootsies in some of Cincinnati's finest water spots. We'll



ride 12-14 miles with lots of opportunities to freshen up along the way. Lunch, Fountain Square. Ride LEADER: David Pepper, our co-captain of the Bicycle Friendly Communities applications. Plus a secret-celeb assistant to ride sweep. If it rains on Saturday the ride will take place on Sunday. *Don't forget your helmet* For more details go to the Cincy Bike Pac website at www.cincybikepac.org/

September 15, 2009

Environmental Education Expo at the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden

All traditional and non-traditional educators interested in environmental education. More than 35 organizations exhibiting, door prizes, food and beverages. For more information go to www.cincinnatizoo.org/discovery/professional/educatorexpo.html

September 23, 2009

"Living the Green Life" Lecture Series:
"Managing Your Daily Energy Consumption"

The "Living the Green Life" lecture series is hosted by Cincinnati Parks, presented by Duke Energy and supported by Worm's Way. The lecture series are held at the Krohn Conservatory located in Eden Park. Seating is limited. For reservations call 352-4080.

October 2, 2009

Second Annual City Employee Energy Fair

The Employee Energy Fair offers training, resources and tools to regional government employees on ways to reduce energy usage and promote energy conservation both at home and at work. This year the Employee Energy Fair will jointly host the Energy, Economic & Environment Summit (3E Summit). The 3Es Summit will provide area business and community leaders industry-specific insight on sustainability efforts, particularly those with a positive impact on the bottom line.

October 2, 2009

Energy, Economic & Environment Summit (3E Summit)

The 3E Summit, previously schedule for May 28, 2009, will take place on October 2, 2009 at the Duke Energy Center in conjunction with the City Employee Energy Fair. The Summit will



run from 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. For more information on the Summit and to register online go to www.3esummitcincinnati.org.

March 14 through November 14, 2009

<u>Hamilton County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program</u>

May 1 through December 30, 2009

<u>Hamilton County Residents Computer and TV Drop-Off program</u>

Leading Cincinnati City Government and the larger community toward sustainability and the practice of good environmental stewardship.



CITY OF CINCINNATI OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Two Centennial Plaza 805 Central Avenue, Suite 320 Cincinnati, OH 45202

Phone: 513-352-6991 Fax: 513-352-6995 E-mail: oeg@cincinnati-oh.gov

We're on the Web http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov

Education, Training and Other Environmental Resources

City of Cincinnati's Safe and Clean Neighborhood Grant Fund

The City of Cincinnati's Safe and Clean Neighborhood Grant Fund is

program that is designed to support and encourage com-



munity-based efforts to improve safety, eliminate blight and increase livability through problem solving projects. The next deadline to apply for this grant money is August 7, 2009. For more information on the Safe and Clean Neighborhood Fund, contact Keep Cincinnati Beautiful at 513-352-4380 or www.keepcincinnatibeautiful.org/index.php/main/show/424

Ecology & Sustainability: Food and Agriculture Lectures Series



These lectures series are held in the Schiff Family Conference

Center in the Cintas Center and are FREE and open to the public. Speakers will offer reflections on various issues associated with sustaining human life through food production. For more information visit www.xavier.edu/ers, email frickman@xavier.edu or call 513-745-3026



Imago—Deepening Our Connection to the Earth

Imago's mission is to foster a deeper harmony with Earth by providing educational experiences, creating opportunities for discussion and community building, and conserving natural areas. Imago offers a variety of Education programs for people who want to learn more about natural history, the environment and sustainable living. Their education programs span the ages from toddlers and preschoolers to adults. Imago feature education programs are based at our Earth Center, 16acre nature preserve where they lead hands-on education hikes for over 8,000 schools and scouts each year.

Hamilton County Department of Environmental Services—Air Quality Division



The Air Quality Division of Hamilton County works with government agencies, businesses, communities, and citizens to achieve and maintain healthy air quality in Southwest Ohio.

On-Line Complaint Form

Smog Alert Information

Monitoring and Analysis

Greater Cincinnati Environmental Educators (GCEE)

The GCEE is an umbrella organization composed of environmental education organizations and



parks. GCEE promotes environmental education resources available to teachers throughout Greater Cincinnati. They also facilitate interaction and collaboration among environmental educator professionals and provide outreach and training to classroom teachers. For more information on the GCEE go to www.gcenvironmentaleducators.org/ index.html